

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of synopsisizing large data sets to facilitate the use of an accessibility system, comprising:
 - providing a large data set and formatting said large data set in a markup language data structure;
 - generating a synopsis of said large data set;
 - formatting said synopsis of said large data set in a synopsis container that includes said large data set and said synopsis of said large data set; and
 - transmitting said synopsis container to a computer having an accessibility system.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein providing a large data set comprises automatically generating said large data set in response to a user input.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein providing a large data set comprises retrieving said large data set from storage in response to a user input.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein formatting said large data set for transmission comprises generating markup language data structures to direct the display of said large data set at a client terminal.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein generating a synopsis of said large data set comprises automatically generating said synopsis by comparing data elements in said large data set to predetermined metrics.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein generating a synopsis of said large data set comprises writing said synopsis by an individual.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein formatting said synopsis of said large data set in a synopsis container comprises generating a markup language data structure defining said synopsis container.
8. The method of claim 1 wherein transmitting said synopsis container comprises transmitting a markup language data structure including said large data set and said synopsis.
9. The method of claim 1 wherein said accessibility system is a screen reader.

10. A markup language data structure for synopsisizing a large data set, comprising:
 - a data structure initial tag;
 - at least one attribute comprising a synopsis of said large data set;
 - a markup language data structure containing said large data set; and
 - a data structure terminating tag;
11. The data structure of claim 10 further comprising a flag attribute indicating whether or not to output said large data set.
12. The data structure of claim 10, wherein said data structure is associated with the keyword CONTAINER.
13. The data structure of claim 10 wherein said data structure initial tag is <CONTAINER> and said data structure terminating tag is </CONTAINER>.
14. The data structure of claim 10 wherein said data structure is compatible with the Hyper-Text Markup Language.

15. A computer readable medium including one or more computer programs operative to cause a computer to generate and transmit a synopsis container for a large data set, the computer programs causing the computer to perform the steps of:
- formatting said large data set in a markup language data structure;
 - generating a synopsis of said large data set;
 - formatting said synopsis of said large data set in a synopsis container that
 - includes said large data set in said markup language data structure; and
 - transmitting said synopsis container to a computer having an accessibility system.
16. The computer readable medium of claim 15 wherein said accessibility system comprises a screen reader.

17. A computer comprising:
 - a screen reader operative to generate speech corresponding to text to be displayed on a computer display; and
 - a communications port operative to receive at least one web page from a web server;wherein said screen reader is operative to recognize a synopsis container in a web page, said synopsis container including a large data set and a synopsis of said large data set, and to generate speech corresponding to said synopsis of said large data set.
18. The computer of claim 17 wherein said screen reader does not generate speech corresponding to said large data set.